

Tom Berry  
Kennebunk

Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and members of the Joint Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology: My name is Tom Berry, I reside in Kennebunk, Maine, and I am writing to testify in support of An Act to Create the Pine Tree Power Company.

As a resident of Kennebunk, I know first-hand, the benefits of having the electric power my family uses be provided by a consumer-owned utility. Since we moved here over 25 years ago, we have experienced very few power outages and those that have occurred have been of very short duration. I like the fact that our utility is not focused on making a profit for investors and that they have a board that holds hearings where town residents can provide input regarding policy decisions. I appreciate the fact that Kennebunk Light & Power has been making significant investment in solar power and that plans for further expansion in this area is in the works.

Over the years I have often heard expressions of envy from friends and colleagues from other nearby towns - wishing they could have KLP as their provider.

I support LD 1708 because I believe all Mainers should have that same experience my family and I have regarding this essential utility.